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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Poland
SUBJECT Industrial and Other Activities in Swiebodzice

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. "At present Swiebodzice has a population of around 8000 people. (During World War II, the town had over 11,000 inhabitants.)

2. "In addition to an electrical equipment factory Swiebodzice has the following industrial activities:

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- (a) A hemp-weaving mill, which is the largest factory in town; on Strzegomska Street; now employing approximately 800 people.
- (b) Swiebodzickie Zaklady Remontu Maszyn Wlokienniczych on Fabryczna Street; employing 150 people. This plant operated up to 1952 as a kind of workshop for the hemp-weaving mill but since then has become independent from the hemp-weaving mill and is now working on its own for the textile industry in Walbrzych.
- (c) Fabryka Zegarow, a watch and clock factory; on Walbrzyska Street. In the middle of 1952, this factory was taken over by military authorities. Although the sign of the clock factory has not been taken down, the production within its walls has been completely changed. Most of the former machinery was taken away and replaced by high precision equipment. The old buildings were retained and across the street from these buildings a large lot (where some new buildings had been constructed in the early part of 1953) was allocated to the factory. Both areas are lit at night by searchlights and heavily guarded 24 hours a day. Approximately 500 workers are employed in the plant. It is said that they are employed in the production of parts for time-bombs. All workers under employment here must sign a special declaration stating that they will not disclose any production secrets under fear of the severest penalties. As production was only started in the spring of 1953, not many rumours of activities behind the walls of the factory have reached the general public. The factory is located on the southern outskirts of Swiebodzice and is adjacent to a former brick factory on its northern side.

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- (d) Swiebodzickie Zaklady Odzieżowe, a factory for ready-made clothing; with approximately 500 employees (mostly young women and girls). This factory specializes in the production of uniforms for fire brigades and also in the production of uniforms for the Industrial Police. (The uniform for the Industrial Police is dark grey with red insignia and long trousers. They wear round caps decorated with ribbon of a lighter grey.) This factory is located on Stalingradzka Street.
- (e) Fabryka Lin i Powrozow, a factory specializing in the production of all kinds of ropes and cables. Over 100 workers are employed. The factory is located on Towarowa Street.
- (f) Wytownia Sprzetu Komunikacyjnego, where special transport vehicles such as railway passenger cars, narrow-gauge railways, and special kinds of trucks with coach bodies are produced. It is located outside of Swiebodzice in the western outskirts of the village of Pelcznica. This factory formerly had the name of 'A 12' when it was producing high tension transformers. It was taken over by military authorities in the first half of 1952. It now employs around 500 workers and is specializing, according to rumours, in the production of spare parts for military planes. Often factories bear a fake name (such as the Polish one above) to camouflage special production activities for the military. (An example of this is the factory in Mielec, which is east of Krakow.)
3. "There is also in Swiebodzice a chocolate factory (Gnieszka) on Nowotki Street which employs approximately 50 people; a furniture factory on Stalingradzka Street (formerly Kolejowa Street) with over 200 employed; and a brewery on Swidnicka Street with a staff of approximately 50.
4. "The relatively high number of people employed in Swiebodzice's industries can be explained by the fact that the town is located rather close to the large industrial center of Walbrzych. A good many of the workers in Swiebodzice do not live actually in the town but in the surrounding area."

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